

AROEHAN:

This year too AROEHAN continued to make great strides in the four identified issue areas, namely health, education, livelihood and governance.

- **Health:** The activities done this year to **strengthen health services** include the **celebration of 6-monthly birthdays of the children-** a significant milestone in a scenario of malnourishment, and the conducting of varied training programs.
- **Training programs were conducted for the mother-support groups and the Village Health Nutrition Sanitation (VHNSC) Committees** to strengthen the existing village monitoring systems for transparency and public accountability.
- In **service delivery The VHNSC** in some hamlets have been instrumental in **prohibiting child marriages and in campaigning at the Taluka level against non-disbursal of government funds.**
- A **Special Feed programme** was organised in alliance with the Rajmata Jijau Nutrition Mission of the Government of Maharashtra for improving the weight of Severely Underweight (SUW) children.
- **193 children across 18 ICDS centres were covered under this programme. At, the end of the programme, 181 children showed an increase in weight and 21 children improved in their overall gradation of health.**
- As a part of the ANC (Ante-natal care) programme, AROEHAN in a joint collaboration with NDMVP hospital at Nashik has initiated a **sonography support programme for the pregnant women in Mokhada Taluka. Through this collaboration we have been able to take 800 pregnant women to Nasik for timely sonography checks, thus preventing possible complications that could have arisen in some pregnancies.**

In the area of **education**, AROEHAN focussed on strengthening School Management Committees to promote quality education. Efforts were also taken to improve Ashram School administration and promote child friendly practices.

- Through our campaigns we could reach out to more than 5000 children.

- A Taluka level children's fair was also organized by AROEHAN as an initiative towards promoting talent among the children.

In the area of **agriculture**,

- AROEHAN extended its capacity-building and technical training to 465 farmers.
- The farmers produced a total of 19,400 kgs of a variety of vegetables such as chilly, bitter-gourd, bottle-gourd, and okra.
- With technical expertise from organizations such as Nimbuzz and BAIF AROEHAN introduced the farmers to innovative technology and allied activities of agriculture; namely drip irrigation, floriculture and social forestry.
- We have arranged exposure visits for the farmers to Malegaon to introduce them to natural farming techniques.
- The **rainwater harvesting** management techniques were undertaken in 8 villages to improve water sources. A total of 38 small and medium structures were created to improve ground water availability.

In the area of governance, AROEHAN focussed on enhancing participation, transparency and accountability.

- Social Audit of MGNREGA was conducted in 50 Gram Panchayats of Jawhar. AROEHAN had undertaken Taluka and district level advocacy campaigns on issues of forest rights and access to water from the Vaitarna dam.
- AROEHAN in collaboration with YASHADA, conducted technical trainings on following areas: identification of the “shelf of work” in a grampanchayat, and measurement and preparation of work estimates under MGNREGA. The training was supplemented by practical exercises wherein villagers identified the actual work needed in the village and prepared the estimate for the same.
- AROEHAN has been undertaking rigorous follow-up with the Collector of Palghar district for the incorporation of these village plans in the district level plan.
- AROEHAN has arranged exposure visits for “pada samiti” members to Mendha Lekha- a village in Gadchiroli district- in order to understand

and replicate models of local self-governance that have succeeded there.

The organisation has thus grown immensely in its reach and impact, thanks to the effort put in by a dedicated team of 30 young workers ably guided by the Programme Manager Ms Shraddha Shringarpure. We take this opportunity to thank them as also our donors and partners BPCL, Siemens India Ltd., Edelgive Foundation, Concern india Foundation, Trent Ltd., the EGS Department of the GoM, the YSSS Foundation, IIT Mumbai, Natural Solutions and several other individual donors and well-wishers.